

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-26 without prejudice or disclaimer.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-26. (Canceled)

27. (New) A method of producing a pressure sensor utilizing a pressure sensor house assembly which contains a reference cavity and a thermally activatable getter placed therein, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a vacuum in the reference cavity;

moving a solid body connected to a heat source from a position exterior of the reference cavity into direct mechanical contact with the getter;

activating the heat source to conduct heat from the heat source through the solid body to the getter for a predetermined period of time; and

removing the heat source from being connected to the solid body.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein, in the step of activating the heat source, heat is also conducted to seal the pressure sensor house assembly with the solid body.

29. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the direct mechanical contact of the solid body with the getter is elastic.

30. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the pressure sensor comprises an outside connection which can be closed and wherein:

in the step of providing a vacuum, air is pumped out of the reference cavity via the outside connection;

in the step of moving the solid body, the solid body is moved to be located at the outside connection acting as a lid; and

in the step of activating the heat source and conducting heat to the solid body, heat is also conducted to seal the solid body to the outside connection, thereby sealing the pressure sensor house assembly from the exterior.

31. (New) The method of claim 27, comprising the further steps of:

producing the pressure sensor house assembly from substantially ceramic material having the reference cavity arranged therein and a single closing channel from a main portion of the reference cavity to a mouth at the outside;

pumping air out of a room containing the pressure sensor house assembly, so that a vacuum is obtained therein and in the reference cavity;

arranging a glass joint material on a closing lid, the glass joint material being capable of being thermally activated;

heating the closing lid and placing the closing lid over the mouth of the closing channel; and

allowing the closing lid to cool.

32. (New) A method of producing a pressure sensor comprising a pressure sensor house assembly which contains a reference cavity, in which a vacuum exists, and furthermore comprising a getter capable of being thermally activated, the method

comprising activating the getter by directly contacting the getter with an exterior heated body that is heated via a heat source, conducting heat from the exterior heated body, maintaining the exterior heated body in direct contact with the getter for a predetermined period of time, and removing the heat source and sealing the pressure sensor house assembly with the exterior heated body.

33. (New) A method of producing a pressure sensor comprising a pressure sensor house assembly containing a reference cavity, in which a vacuum exists, and furthermore comprising a getter which is capable of being thermally activated and an outside connection which can be closed, the method comprising pumping air out of the reference cavity, closing the outside connection with a lid, and activating the getter by directly conducting heat via the lid and by maintaining the heated lid in direct contact with the getter for a predetermined period of time.